

Como Park Elementary School
February 29, 2016
Midget Boys and Bantam Girls

The Midget Conference schedulers must have known something when they pitted the 8-1 Braves against the 9-0 Celtics in the final week of regular season in the Lancaster Recreation Department's Youth Basketball Program. The Braves needed a win to grab a share of the West Division crown, but the Celtics wanted it all to themselves. The game, as you might expect, was a close battle, with the lead changing hands numerous times until the Braves pulled away in the late going to win it, 49-40. Joe Harrington was the catalyst of the Braves offense, finishing with 26 hard-earned points. Jack Harrington's seven points led a supporting cast that included Jack Speyer (6pts), Christopher Wargo (4), Tyler Derkovitz (4), and Jack Farrugia (2). The tandem of James Berent and Ryan Taylor kept the game tight for the Celtics, scoring twelve points apiece, while Mason Cisco chipped in with seven points of his own. Thomas Carlsen, Noah Boling, Christian Carlsen and C.J. Kanick each added a basket and Dante Millonzi a free throw in the Celtics' first loss.

In another West Division tilt, the Bulls used 24 points from Ryan Andolina and 14 from Brayden Monk to skate past the Knicks 52-32. Dean Wendel chimed in with six points, William Mueller added four and Alexander Evenhouse and Michael Steffens a basket each in the Bulls win. Mitchell Mycek led the Knicks with twelve points and was supported by J.J. Counihan's eight points, Jason Mendola's five and Andrew Miller's four. A bucket from Alex Folster and a free throw from Bobby Bashor rounded out the Knicks' scoring.

The top two teams in the West Division squared off in another Midget Conference game, and the decision went to the 1st place Lakers, who rode 26 points from the Bauer brothers, 14 from Travis and twelve from Matt, to defeat the Clippers 43-32. Ben Swigonski and Zachary Schmitt augmented the attack with six and five points, respectively, while Richie Kamats, Matthew Kaler and Michael Wolski added a bucket each in the Lakers' win. The Clippers, who fought back from a 22-point halftime deficit to make the game close, were led by 18 points from Matthew Mazur and eight from Adam Gabryszak. A basket from each of Nathan Wick, Jackson Tully and Ryan Klein completed the scoring for the Clippers.

The final game on the boys' slate saw the Spurs use a well-balanced scoring attack to take down the Grizzlies, 36-24. Jack Martindale topped that attack with 13 points, but received plenty of help from Braden Callahan (8pts), Thomas Sirianni (5), Mark Sirianni (4), Nate Stojanovski (2), Riley Molnar (2) and Nicholas Sirianni (2) in their final tune-up before the playoffs. Ryan Corcoran hit for twelve points to pilot the Grizzlies' offense, while Ryan Teichmann scored five, Peter Skulski four, Gavin Jell two and Max Stoldt one.

Awards were handed out following the games, as the regular season came to an end. Joe Harrington took home league MVP honors for his fine play throughout the year. Ryan Andolina was recognized with the "Best Offense" award and Jack Martindale took home the plaque for "Best Defense". Ben Swigonski won "Best Passer" and James Berent the "Best Rebounder". Other awards went to Richie Kamats for "Most Dedicated" and Adam Gabryszak for "Most Improved". The final two awards were the

“Sportsmanship” award that went to Mitchell Mycek and the “Big ‘D’” award, which recognized Andrew Miller for his drive, determination and desire while playing this year.

In the Girls Bantam Conference, twelve was the magic number for the Huskies, as both Kayla Wagner and Sienna Wolf knocked down six baskets for twelve points in guiding their team to victory. Mae Stoldt had her best game of the season, scoring six points, while Molly Mescall added four and Rachel Kamrowski and Lola Ostrowski chipped in a bucket apiece. Madigan Mescall also played her best game of the season as she topped the Bears’ scoring with ten points. Riley Hebeler’s six points and four more from Caroline Helenbrook rounded out the Bears’ scoring.

The other girls contest saw the Spartans build a 20-5 halftime lead and glide to a 32-16 conquest of the Bulldogs. Julia Benham and Laine Miklas split 16 points, while Grace Pyc added six, Kaitlyn Propis and Addison Stachewicz four each and Grace Harrington two in the Spartans’ victory. The Bulldogs fought back hard in the second half, but couldn’t climb out from the early hole they had dug for themselves. Kyra Wolf, Ava Wedge and Grace Szpylman each scored four points, Rebecca Au added three and Melanie Marcezin contributed a free throw, but it was just a case of “too little, too late.”